

Ser. No. 10/033,317

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Remarks/Arguments

Claims 1 and 10 are amended to clarify that an electronic programming guide (EPG) displays a video-clip preview after highlighting a program titled cell of a grid guide and after remaining at the highlighted cell for a predetermined delay. Support for the amendment is in the specification on page 2, lines 2-8, page 4, lines 16-29, Fig. 3, and in other places.

Claims 8 and 18 are amended to clarify the exclusion of programming of a certain content-rating and associated video clip previews as being done in view of a parental control. Support for this amendment is in the specification on page 6, lines 17-25, and in other places.

Claims 19 and 20 are amended as dependent claims to define the "predetermined delay" of Claims 1 and 10 as "at least one second". Support for the amendment is in the specification on page 4, lines 20-24, and in other places.

No new matter was added in view of these amendments.

Applicants also note that Claims 1, 8, and 10 were discussed in a telephonic interview on September 3, 2003 with the Examiner. The substance of the interview is incorporated in this response.

I. 35 U.S.C. § 102 REJECTIONS

The Examiner rejected Claims 1 and 10 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (b) as being anticipated by Lawler et al. (U.S. Patent # 5,585,838, hereafter referred to as 'Lawler'). Applicants disagree with this ground of rejection.

Claim 1 claims a system for having an electronic programming guide (EPG) display a video clip preview, "after browsing and navigating through the grid guide to highlight a program titled cell, and after remaining at the highlighted program title cell for a predetermined delay," (emphasis added). These two features of Claim 1 are neither disclosed nor suggested in Lawler.

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In the Office Action, the Examiner stated that Lawler disclosed the elements of Claim 1 of, "automatically launching the video clip preview (100), after browsing and navigating through the grid guide to highlight a program titled cell (col. 9, lines 56-64), and remaining at the highlighted titled cell for a predetermined delay (e.g., until the user selects or highlights another title). Applicants disagree with the Examiner.

Amended Claim 1 recites that a video clip preview is shown after the steps of navigating through a grid guide to highlight a program titled cell and remaining at the highlighted titled cell for a predetermined delay. The rejection made by the Examiner does not state what steps need to be performed before a video clip preview is shown as claimed in Claim 1. Specifically, the Examiner's rejection is directed towards what occurs after a video clip preview is shown where a video clip is displayed as long as one remains, "at the highlighted program titled cell for a predetermined delay (e.g. until the user selects or highlights another title)." Nothing is stated by the Examiner in the rejection as to what initiates the display of a video clip, unlike what is claimed in Claim 1.

For the forgoing reasons, Claim 1 is allowable and Applicants request that the Examiner remove the rejection to this claim. Claim 10 is allowable for the reasons listed in connection for Claim 1 because Claim 10 possess the same claim limitations as Claim 1. Applicants request the removal of the rejection to Claim 10, as well.

The Examiner rejected Claims 1, 8, 10, and 18 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (b) as being anticipated by Schein et al. (U.S. Patent # 6,075,575, hereafter referred to as 'Schein'). Applicants disagree with this ground of rejection.

The Examiner repeated the same arguments used in connection for Lawler to sustain a rejection under Schein. Applicants assert that that Schein, does not suggest or disclose the features of Claim 1 of having an electronic programming guide (EPG) display a video clip preview, "after browsing and navigating through the grid guide to highlight a program titled cell, and after remaining at the highlighted program title cell for a predetermined delay," (see arguments used above for Lawler). The rejection by the Examiner directed towards what occurs after a video clip is displayed. In contrast, Claim 1 recites two steps that must occur before a video clip is displayed.

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Additionally, the Examiner rejected Claims 8 and 18 as being met by the user profile and preferences description disclosed in Schein. Applicants disagree. Claim 8 claims a user profile based parental control for excluding at least, "one content-rated program and associated video clip preview." Schein discloses a procedure for creating a favorites list (see Schein, col. 12, lines 34-67). This operation of Schein is not related to excluding content-rated programs and an associated video clip preview using a parental control, as claimed in Claim 1. Furthermore, nothing in Schein either discloses or suggests an operation of using a parental control to restrict the viewing of video clip previews of content-rated programs.

For the forgoing reasons, Claims 1 and 8 are allowable and Applicants request that the Examiner remove the rejection to these claims. Claim 10 and 18 are allowable for the reasons listed in connection for Claim 1 and 8, respectively. Applicants request the removal of the rejection to Claims 10 and 18, as well.

The Examiner rejected Claims 19 and 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (e) as being anticipated by Knudson et al. (U.S. Patent # 6,526,577, hereafter referred to as 'Knudson'). This rejection to these claims is moot as the Applicants have amended Claims 19 and 20 to depend on allowable Claims 1 and 10, respectively.

II. 35 U.S.C. § 103 REJECTIONS

The Examiner rejected Claims 2-5 and 11-14 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being anticipated by Schein in view of Rowe et al. (U.S. Patent # 5,812,123, hereafter referred to as 'Rowe'). Applicants disagree.

Claims 2-5 are allowable as the claims depend on allowable Claim 1. Claims 11-14 are also allowable as the claims depend on Claim 10. For these reasons, Applicants request that the Examiner remove the rejection to Claims 2-5 and 11-14.

The Examiner rejected Claims 6, 7, 9, and 15-17 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Schein in view of Rowe and in further view of Reynolds et al (U.S. Patent # 6,563,515, hereafter referred to as 'Reynolds'). Applicants disagree.

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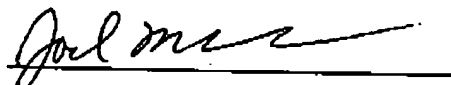
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Claims 6, 7, and 9 are allowable as the claims depend on allowable Claim 1. Claims 15-17 are allowable as the claims depend on allowable Claim 10. For these reasons, Applicants request that the Examiner remove the rejection to Claims 6, 7, 9, and 15-17.

Having fully addressed the Examiner's rejections it is believed that, in view of the preceding amendments and remarks, this application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully solicited. If, however, the Examiner is of the opinion that such action cannot be taken, the Examiner is invited to contact the applicant's attorney at (609) 734-6809, so that a mutually convenient date and time for a telephonic interview may be scheduled.

No fee is believed due. However, if a fee is due, please charge the additional fee to Deposit Account 07-0832.

Respectfully submitted,


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